

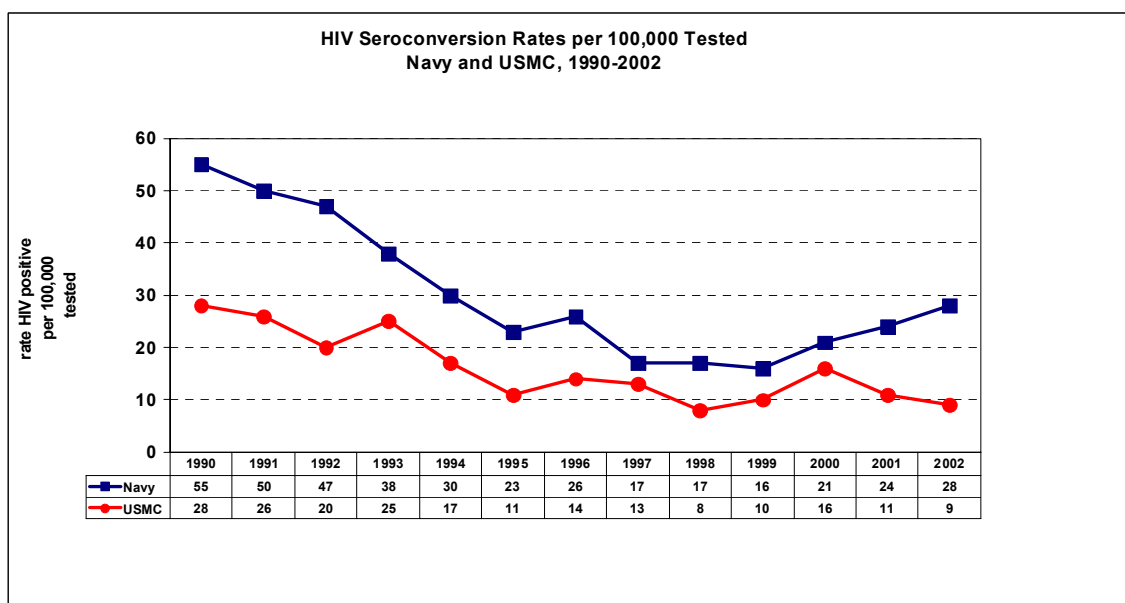


# SHARP News



## HIV Rates Among Sailors and Marines in 2002

During calendar year 2002, there were 304,600 active duty Sailors, and 137,567 active duty Marines tested for HIV antibodies. Of these, 84 Sailors and 13 Marines were newly identified as HIV positive, including 5 female Sailors. Since 1985, there have been 4,883 documented cases of HIV infection among active duty Sailors and Marines. HIV seroconversion rates (cases per 100,000 members tested) among active duty Sailors and Marines from 1990-2002 are shown here. The HIV seroconversion rate of Sailors increased for the third consecutive year since 1999, rising from 16 to 28 over that period. The 2002 rate is the highest rate observed among Sailors since 1994. Among Marines, the rate increased in 2000 (from 10 to 16), then declined in 2001 (11) and again in 2002 (9). These rates demonstrate that the HIV epidemic continues to affect the active duty force. The SHARP target is to reduce the rate to not more than 8 per 100,000 (based on the lowest rate seen to date among active duty Marines).



A brief PowerPoint presentation of this data is available for viewing or downloading from the SHARP website at <http://www-nehc.med.navy.mil/hp/sharp/index.htm> (click on "Military STD-HIV Statistics". Statistics for gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis among active duty Sailors and Marines may also be accessed from that web page.